

Newton Abbot Rural District Council

A N N U A L - R E P O R T.

of the

M E D I C A L O F F I C E R O F H E A L T H.

FOR THE YEAR

1 9 4 9.

H.M. DAVIES

M.A., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.

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PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF :

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH:


H.M. Davies, M.A., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H..

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR:

A. Gray, Cert. R.S.I., Cert. Meat and Foods.

SANITARY INSPECTOR:

A.R. Smith, Cert. R.S.I., Cert. Meat and Foods.



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Newton Abbot Rural District Council

COUNCIL OFFICES,
KINGSTEIGNTON ROAD,
NEWTON ABBOT

Mr. Chairman and Councillors.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit the Medical Officer's report for the year 1949. I was not your Medical Officer for the period under consideration, and this report will, therefore, be largely confined to the Vital Statistics.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (in acres)	92,650.
Population - 1931 Census	20,788.
Population - Mid 1949	24,470.
Rateable Value as at 1st. January, 1949	£134,773.
Rateable Value as at 31st. December, 1949	£136,161.
Product of 1d. rate (as at 1st. April, 1949)	558.

VITAL STATISTICS.

BIRTHS.

The following table shows that the Birth Rate for the District is still below that for England and Wales as a whole. It shows a decrease on that of the previous year, the figures being 14.7 per thousand total population for 1949, as against 15.41 per thousand for 1948.

LIVE BIRTHS.

	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Legitimate.	186	154	340.
Illegitimate.	6	7	13.
	-----	-----	-----
	192.	161.	353.
	-----	-----	-----

Newton School District Council

COUNCIL OFFICES
KINGSTON ROAD
NEWTON ABBOT

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Live Birth rate per 1000 total population - 14.7.
 Corresponding rate for England & Wales - 16.7.

STILL BIRTHS.

	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Legitimate.	9	3	12.
Illegitimate.	1	-	1.
	-----	-----	-----
	10.	3.	13.
	-----	-----	-----
Still Birth rate per 1000 total population	- 0.54.		
Still Birth rate per 1000 civilian population England & Wales	- 0.38.		
Still Birth rate per 1000 total live and still births (England & Wales)	- 22.7.		

DEATHS.

The death rate for the Rural District continued to be higher than the average for England and Wales, this is shown in the accompanying table. During the year the average age at death **from** all causes was found to be 72.19 years. The average age at death for residents in the Rural District continues to increase, the figure given being higher than in previous years.

Death rate per 1000 resident population = 15.2.
 Death rate (England & Wales) per 1000
 resident population = 11.7.

Infant Mortality (Deaths of Infants under One year of age.)

	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Legitimate.	9	1	= 10.
Illegitimate.	-	-	= -.

The Infant Mortality Rate(i.e. Deaths of Infants
 under One year per 1000 live births) = 28.3.
 The corresponding rate for England & Wales = 32.0.

It will be seen that the Infant Mortality rate is below that for the whole country.

AGE AT DEATH.

	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>
Infants under 1 year	9	1
1 - 5	2	-
5 - 15	3	-
15 - 25	3	1
25 - 35	5	2
35 - 45	4	8
45 - 55	13	5
55 - 65	26	19
65 - 75	53	45
75 and over	72	94
	-----	-----
	190.	175.
	-----	-----

Total = 365.

The chief causes of death were:-

<u>Infectious Cases:-</u>	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>
Cerebro. Spinal Fever.	-	1
Tuberculosis (Pulmonary)	6	4
Tuberculosis (Non-Pulmonary)	1	-
Influenza	2	3
Pneumonia	5	4
<u>General Causes:-</u>		
Heart & Blood Vessels	65	67
Cerebral Haemorrhage	16	21
Cancer	35	26
Bronchitis	7	5
Nephritis	6	7
Diabetes	1	1
Ulcers	2	3
Digestive Diseases	1	2
Other Resp. Diseases	1	2
Syphilitic Disease	-	1
Congenital Malformation	7	-
Diarrhoea under 2 years	1	-
Suicide	4	2
Road Traffic Accidents	4	1
Other Violent Causes	4	1
All other causes	22	24
	-----	-----
	190.	175.
	-----	-----

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

<u>Disease.</u>	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Scarlet Fever	4	6	10.
Measles	75	74	149.
Acute Primary Pneumonia	1	1	2.
Acute Influenzal Pneumonia)			
Whooping Cough	10	17	27.
Cerebro. Spinal Fever	1	1(fatal)	2.
Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis	—	1	1.
Erysipelas	1	1	2.
" Facial	1	3	4.
Food Poisoning	2	4	6.
Mumps	—	1	1.
	-----	-----	-----
	95.	109.	204.
	-----	-----	-----

ACUTE ANTERIOR POLIOMYELITIS.

The only case of Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis during the year occurred in a visitor to the area. No further cases were reported.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Twenty-six cases were notified during the year, 16 male and 10 female, of which twenty-four were Pulmonary cases and two Non-Pulmonary, Details are set out in the following table:—

<u>AGE PERIODS:</u>		<u>CASES.</u>			
		<u>Pulmonary.</u>		<u>Non-Pulmonary.</u>	
		<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>
Infants under					
One year		—	—	—	—
1	— 5.	—	—	—	—
5	— 15.	1	2	1	—
15	— 25.	5	1	—	1
25	— 35.	3	4	—	—
35	— 45.	6	1	—	—
45	— 55.	—	1	—	—
55	— 65.	—	—	—	—
65	— 75.	—	—	—	—
75	and over.	—	—	—	—
		-----	-----	-----	-----
		15.	9.	1.	1.
		-----	-----	-----	-----

100

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3

[illegible]

Figure 1. The effect of the concentration of the *Agrobacterium* suspension on the transformation efficiency of *Agrobacterium* strains. The number of transformed cells was determined by the number of colonies on the selective medium. The results are the mean of three independent experiments. Error bars represent standard deviation.

100

100

10

1

1

1. $\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{4}$ 2. $\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{4}$

10

1000

Figure 1. The effect of the concentration of the *Agaricus bisporus* spores on the growth of *Agaricus bisporus* and *Agaricus bisporus* spores. The concentration of the spores was 10⁶ spores/ml (A), 10⁷ spores/ml (B), 10⁸ spores/ml (C), 10⁹ spores/ml (D), 10¹⁰ spores/ml (E), 10¹¹ spores/ml (F), 10¹² spores/ml (G), 10¹³ spores/ml (H), 10¹⁴ spores/ml (I), 10¹⁵ spores/ml (J), 10¹⁶ spores/ml (K), 10¹⁷ spores/ml (L), 10¹⁸ spores/ml (M), 10¹⁹ spores/ml (N), 10²⁰ spores/ml (O), 10²¹ spores/ml (P), 10²² spores/ml (Q), 10²³ spores/ml (R), 10²⁴ spores/ml (S), 10²⁵ spores/ml (T), 10²⁶ spores/ml (U), 10²⁷ spores/ml (V), 10²⁸ spores/ml (W), 10²⁹ spores/ml (X), 10³⁰ spores/ml (Y), 10³¹ spores/ml (Z), 10³² spores/ml (AA), 10³³ spores/ml (AB), 10³⁴ spores/ml (AC), 10³⁵ spores/ml (AD), 10³⁶ spores/ml (AE), 10³⁷ spores/ml (AF), 10³⁸ spores/ml (AG), 10³⁹ spores/ml (AH), 10⁴⁰ spores/ml (AI), 10⁴¹ spores/ml (AJ), 10⁴² spores/ml (AK), 10⁴³ spores/ml (AL), 10⁴⁴ spores/ml (AM), 10⁴⁵ spores/ml (AN), 10⁴⁶ spores/ml (AO), 10⁴⁷ spores/ml (AP), 10⁴⁸ spores/ml (AQ), 10⁴⁹ spores/ml (AR), 10⁵⁰ spores/ml (AS), 10⁵¹ spores/ml (AT), 10⁵² spores/ml (AU), 10⁵³ spores/ml (AV), 10⁵⁴ spores/ml (AW), 10⁵⁵ spores/ml (AX), 10⁵⁶ spores/ml (AY), 10⁵⁷ spores/ml (AZ), 10⁵⁸ spores/ml (BA), 10⁵⁹ spores/ml (BB), 10⁶⁰ spores/ml (BC), 10⁶¹ spores/ml (BD), 10⁶² spores/ml (BE), 10⁶³ spores/ml (BF), 10⁶⁴ spores/ml (BG), 10⁶⁵ spores/ml (BH), 10⁶⁶ spores/ml (BI), 10⁶⁷ spores/ml (BJ), 10⁶⁸ spores/ml (BK), 10⁶⁹ spores/ml (BL), 10⁷⁰ spores/ml (BM), 10⁷¹ spores/ml (BN), 10⁷² spores/ml (BO), 10⁷³ spores/ml (BP), 10⁷⁴ spores/ml (BQ), 10⁷⁵ spores/ml (BR), 10⁷⁶ spores/ml (BS), 10⁷⁷ spores/ml (BT), 10⁷⁸ spores/ml (BU), 10⁷⁹ spores/ml (BV), 10⁸⁰ spores/ml (BW), 10⁸¹ spores/ml (BX), 10⁸² spores/ml (BY), 10⁸³ spores/ml (BZ), 10⁸⁴ spores/ml (CA), 10⁸⁵ spores/ml (CB), 10⁸⁶ spores/ml (CC), 10⁸⁷ spores/ml (CD), 10⁸⁸ spores/ml (CE), 10⁸⁹ spores/ml (CF), 10⁹⁰ spores/ml (CG), 10⁹¹ spores/ml (CH), 10⁹² spores/ml (CI), 10⁹³ spores/ml (CJ), 10⁹⁴ spores/ml (CK), 10⁹⁵ spores/ml (CL), 10⁹⁶ spores/ml (CM), 10⁹⁷ spores/ml (CN), 10⁹⁸ spores/ml (CO), 10⁹⁹ spores/ml (CP), 10¹⁰⁰ spores/ml (CQ), 10¹⁰¹ spores/ml (CR), 10¹⁰² spores/ml (CS), 10¹⁰³ spores/ml (CT), 10¹⁰⁴ spores/ml (CU), 10¹⁰⁵ spores/ml (CV), 10¹⁰⁶ spores/ml (CW), 10¹⁰⁷ spores/ml (CX), 10¹⁰⁸ spores/ml (CY), 10¹⁰⁹ spores/ml (CZ), 10¹¹⁰ spores/ml (DA), 10¹¹¹ spores/ml (DB), 10¹¹² spores/ml (DC), 10¹¹³ spores/ml (DD), 10¹¹⁴ spores/ml (DE), 10¹¹⁵ spores/ml (DF), 10¹¹⁶ spores/ml (DG), 10¹¹⁷ spores/ml (DH), 10¹¹⁸ spores/ml (DI), 10¹¹⁹ spores/ml (DJ), 10¹²⁰ spores/ml (DK), 10¹²¹ spores/ml (DL), 10¹²² spores/ml (DM), 10¹²³ spores/ml (DN), 10¹²⁴ spores/ml (DO), 10¹²⁵ spores/ml (DP), 10¹²⁶ spores/ml (DQ), 10¹²⁷ spores/ml (DR), 10¹²⁸ spores/ml (DS), 10¹²⁹ spores/ml (DT), 10¹³⁰ spores/ml (DU), 10¹³¹ spores/ml (DV), 10¹³² spores/ml (DW), 10¹³³ spores/ml (DX), 10¹³⁴ spores/ml (DY), 10¹³⁵ spores/ml (DZ), 10¹³⁶ spores/ml (EA), 10¹³⁷ spores/ml (EB), 10¹³⁸ spores/ml (EC), 10¹³⁹ spores/ml (ED), 10¹⁴⁰ spores/ml (EE), 10¹⁴¹ spores/ml (EF), 10¹⁴² spores/ml (EG), 10¹⁴³ spores/ml (EH), 10¹⁴⁴ spores/ml (EI), 10¹⁴⁵ spores/ml (EJ), 10¹⁴⁶ spores/ml (EK), 10¹⁴⁷ spores/ml (EL), 10¹⁴⁸ spores/ml (EM), 10¹⁴⁹ spores/ml (EN), 10¹⁵⁰ spores/ml (EO), 10¹⁵¹ spores/ml (EP), 10¹⁵² spores/ml (EQ), 10¹⁵³ spores/ml (ER), 10¹⁵⁴ spores/ml (ES), 10¹⁵⁵ spores/ml (ET), 10¹⁵⁶ spores/ml (EU), 10¹⁵⁷ spores/ml (EV), 10¹⁵⁸ spores/ml (EW), 10¹⁵⁹ spores/ml (EX), 10¹⁶⁰ spores/ml (EY), 10¹⁶¹ spores/ml (EZ), 10¹⁶² spores/ml (FA), 10¹⁶³ spores/ml (FB), 10¹⁶⁴ spores/ml (FC), 10¹⁶⁵ spores/ml (FD), 10¹⁶⁶ spores/ml (FE), 10¹⁶⁷ spores/ml (FF), 10¹⁶⁸ spores/ml (FG), 10¹⁶⁹ spores/ml (FH), 10¹⁷⁰ spores/ml (FI), 10¹⁷¹ spores/ml (FJ), 10¹⁷² spores/ml (FK), 10¹⁷³ spores/ml (FL), 10¹⁷⁴ spores/ml (FM), 10¹⁷⁵ spores/ml (FN), 10¹⁷⁶ spores/ml (FO), 10¹⁷⁷ spores/ml (FP), 10¹⁷⁸ spores/ml (FQ), 10¹⁷⁹ spores/ml (FR), 10¹⁸⁰ spores/ml (FS), 10¹⁸¹ spores/ml (FT), 10¹⁸² spores/ml (FU), 10¹⁸³ spores/ml (FV), 10¹⁸⁴ spores/ml (FW), 10¹⁸⁵ spores/ml (FX), 10¹⁸⁶ spores/ml (FY), 10¹⁸⁷ spores/ml (FZ), 10¹⁸⁸ spores/ml (GA), 10¹⁸⁹ spores/ml (GB), 10¹⁹⁰ spores/ml (GC), 10¹⁹¹ spores/ml (GD), 10¹⁹² spores/ml (GE), 10¹⁹³ spores/ml (GF), 10¹⁹⁴ spores/ml (GG), 10¹⁹⁵ spores/ml (GH), 10¹⁹⁶ spores/ml (GI), 10¹⁹⁷ spores/ml (GJ), 10¹⁹⁸ spores/ml (GK), 10¹⁹⁹ spores/ml (GL), 10²⁰⁰ spores/ml (GM), 10²⁰¹ spores/ml (GN), 10²⁰² spores/ml (GO), 10²⁰³ spores/ml (GP), 10²⁰⁴ spores/ml (GQ), 10²⁰⁵ spores/ml (GR), 10²⁰⁶ spores/ml (GS), 10²⁰⁷ spores/ml (GT), 10²⁰⁸ spores/ml (GU), 10²⁰⁹ spores/ml (GV), 10²¹⁰ spores/ml (GW), 10²¹¹ spores/ml (GX), 10²¹² spores/ml (GY), 10²¹³ spores/ml (GZ), 10²¹⁴ spores/ml (HA), 10²¹⁵ spores/ml (HB), 10²¹⁶ spores/ml (HC), 10²¹⁷ spores/ml (HD), 10²¹⁸ spores/ml (HE), 10²¹⁹ spores/ml (HF), 10²²⁰ spores/ml (HG), 10²²¹ spores/ml (HH), 10²²² spores/ml (HI), 10²²³ spores/ml (HJ), 10²²⁴ spores/ml (HK), 10²²⁵ spores/ml (HL), 10²²⁶ spores/ml (HM), 10²²⁷ spores/ml (HN), 10²²⁸ spores/ml (HO), 10²²⁹ spores/ml (HP), 10²³⁰ spores/ml (HQ), 10²³¹ spores/ml (HR), 10²³² spores/ml (HS), 10²³³ spores/ml (HT), 10

HOUSING.

Throughout the year the Rural District Council has continued with its policy of building the maximum number of houses permitted. The demand for accommodation is steadily increasing however and the situation in this district, as in most others, is still acute. Many sub-standard houses exist and only in exceptionally bad cases has the Council taken action being reluctant to reduce even further the number of dwellings in the district when so many families are in need of houses.

The difficulties confronting officials and owners alike with regard to repairing properties considered capable of repair are such that a great deal of this work has to be held in abeyance. In consequence deterioration rapidly brings repairable houses into the class which cannot be repaired at reasonable cost a further factor which, it is considered will prolong the period of the housing shortage.

Throughout the district overcrowding exists in varying degrees and there appears to be little hope of bringing about its abatement for a number of years.

WATER SUPPLIES.

Water mains have been extended to serve the Housing Sites at Oldway, Chudleigh and Kingsteignton.

North Bovey.

This village has now been provided with a piped water supply. The source is from the Torquay Trunk Main at Bovey Cross; it is then conveyed to a Reservoir containing 12,000 gallons, from thence to the village as far as the Council Houses on the Manaton Road. All pipes are of asbestos, 3" and 2". Most of the houses in this village have taken in the supply.

Some difficulty was experienced during the year respecting water supply to the Rural District owing to the drought which was Nation Wide.

By careful supervision, however and continual investigation for leakages the supplies were conserved with a minimum of inconvenience to the Public.

SEWERAGE.

The village of North Bovey has been sewered and outfall works and filter provided.

The 6" sewer has been extended to cater for the Housing Estate at Oldway, Chudleigh.

R. H. Davis.

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Medical Officer of Health.

14th. November, 1950.

